



The Planting  
of the  
**Cross**  
at  
Santa Barbara

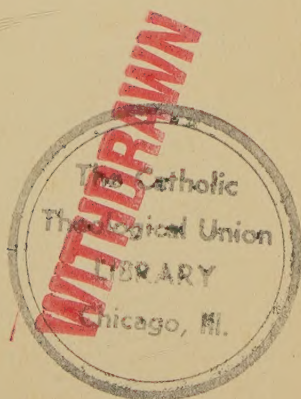
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P536  
1913

BY  
DRE "JUNIPERO" SERRA





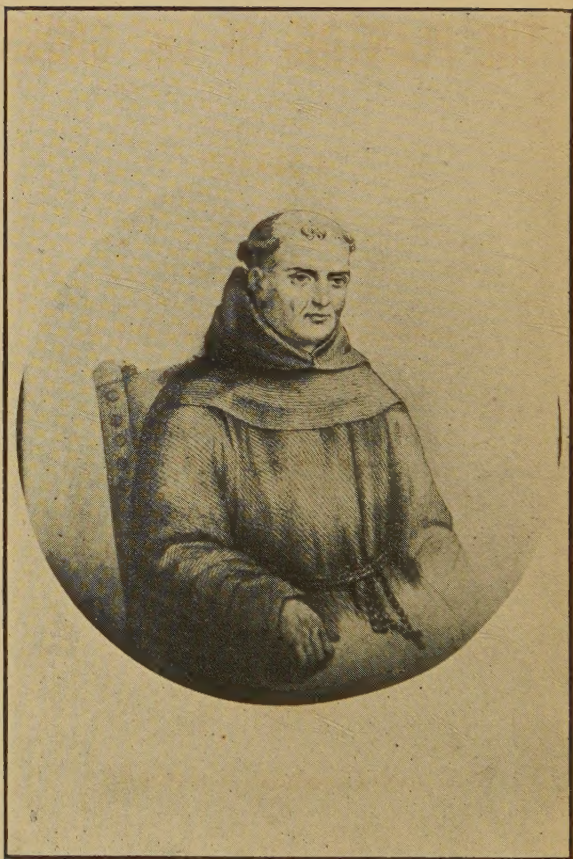
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JUNIPERO SERRA

# THE PLANTING OF THE CROSS

## A SKETCH

BY

FRANCIS DE SALES GLIEBE, O. F. M.

WRITTEN  
FOR THE BICENTENARY  
OF THE BIRTH OF

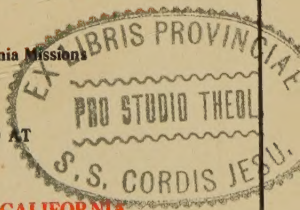
JUNIPERO SERRA, O. F. M.

Founder of the California Missions

CELEBRATED AT

SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA

November 24th, 1913







# THE PLANTING OF THE CROSS

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PADRE JUNIPERO SERRA, *President of  
the California Missions.*

DON FELIPE NEVE, *Governor of California.*

*Officers and Soldiers who comprised  
Father Serra's bodyguard on the 21st day  
of April, 1782, when first he raised the  
standard of the cross in Santa Barbara.*

JOSE FRANCISCO ORTEGA, *Captain.*

PABLO COTA, *First Lieutenant.*

DARIO ARGUELLO, *Second Lieutenant.*

JOSE CARILLO, *First Sergeant.*

JOSE MARIA ORTEGA, *Second Sergeant.*

IGNACIO OLIVERA, *Third Sergeant.*

PEDRO AMADOR, *First Corporal.*

JOSE IGNACIO RODRIGUEZ, *Second Corporal.*

### **PRIVATE SOLDIERS** (*Soldados de Cuera*).

|                     |                     |                    |
|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Juan Franco Soto,   | Felipe Gonzales,    | Manuel Valenzuela, |
| Anastasio Felix,    | Salvador Cervantes, | Jose Ruiz,         |
| Rosalino Fernandez, | Juan Villa,         | Juan Valencia,     |
| Eugenio Valdez,     | Ignacio Rochin,     | Tadeo Sanchez,     |
| Juan Jose Lobo,     | Eugenio Ruiz,       | Mariano Cota,      |
| Guillermo Soto,     | Tomas Gonzales,     | Martin Reyes,      |
| Juan Dominguez,     | Jose Lugo,          | Jose Ayala,        |
| Luis Lugo,          | Isidro German,      | Vincente Suijada,  |
| Vincente Villa,     | Joaquin Rodriguez,  | Jose Valenzuela,   |
| Juan Leyva,         | Jose Flores,        | Jose Martinez,     |
| Francisco Garcia,   | Luis Pena,          | Juan Ballesteros,  |
| Juan Romero,        | Manuel Machado,     | Jose Valdez.       |

### **INDIAN SOLDIERS.**

|                 |                |               |
|-----------------|----------------|---------------|
| Jose Callixto,  | Jose Loreto,   | Pedro Ramon,  |
| Hilario Carlon, | Marcos Varela, | Jose Salazar, |
| Rafael Gerardo, | Manuel Orcha,  | Luis Yaquis   |



PLANTING THE CROSS



# *The Planting of The Cross.*

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## SCENE 1.

*A Procession: Settlers, Soldiers, Officers, last, vested in alb and stole, Junipero Serra, who proceeds to bless the new land.*

V.  UR help is in the name of the Lord.

R. Who made heaven and earth.

V. O Lord, hear my prayer.

R. And let my cry come unto Thee.

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Bless  O Lord, Almighty God, this place; that in it may be health, chastity, victory, strength, humility, goodness and meekness, the fulness of the law, and thanksgiving to God the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; and let Thy blessing remain upon this place, and upon them that dwell therein now and for ever, Amen.

*The settlers raise and firm set the new cross which Padre Junipero proceeds to bless.*



## PLANTING THE CROSS



**V.** Our help is in the name of the Lord.

**R.** Who made heaven and earth.

**V.** O Lord, hear my prayer.

**R.** And let my cry come unto Thee.

**V.** The Lord be with you.

**R.** And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

We beseech Thee, O holy Lord, Father Almighty, Eternal God, that Thou wouldst vouchsafe to bless  this sign of the cross; that it may be a remedy for the human race, a bulwark of faith, increase of good works and salvation of souls; be it a solace and a protection, and a shield against the cruel shafts of the enemy. Through Christ our Lord. **R.** Amen.

Bless,  O Lord Jesus Christ, this cross, by which Thou didst wrest the world from the power of the evil spirits and by Thy Passion didst overcome the author of sin who rejoiced in the prevarication and the fall of the first man through the eating of the forbidden tree; may this sign of the cross be sanctified in the name of the Father,  and of the Son,  and of the Holy  Ghost; that those who for God's sake pray and bow before it may enjoy health of body and soul. Through Christ our Lord. **R.** Amen.





**SERRA'S SERMON.**

Ecce crucem Domini,  
Fugite, partes adversae;  
Vicit Leo de tribu Juda,  
Radix David. Alleluja.

Behold the cross of Christ, flee, counter  
powers;

The Lion overcame of Juda's tribe,  
The Root of David. Praise the Lord.

My honored countrymen and most dear  
children,

Blessed are we today to witness here  
And celebrate the newest victory  
Of our great King and Leader, Christ the Lord.  
Behold the cross, the banner of God's might!  
'Tis lifted high in triumph to the skies,  
Unfolding glorious conquests made—of souls  
Gained by that Blood which flowed from veins  
divine,

And ruddied o'er and o'er the banner's furls.  
The saving wood is raised to extend its arms  
In blessing and in loving invitation:



Calling to rest poor aimless wanderers,  
Shedding sweet light upon a groping race,  
And giving life to famished souls who ne'er  
Have tasted of the tree of life.—

Flee, adverse powers! a stronger power has  
come.

Be ye dispelled, dark shades of death! a light  
Rises unto the nations. A budding morn  
Now blows to open day. Soon, soon shall shine  
The Sun of Justice, and reign above in heaven,  
The Brightness of Eternal Light.—Hail, Life!  
Now, death, where is thy victory! O death,  
Where is thy sting! Praise God who through  
His Son

Gave us to fight and win, through Jesus Christ,  
Our Saviour God.—

The Lion strong of Juda's tribe hath conquered:  
Depart then, hellish wolf, to thy grim lair,  
Thou shalt not snatch the lambs from out the  
fold.

Good Shepherd, they are Thine. Oh let no more  
The enemy wrench from Thy grasp the prize  
Which Thou didst win in that great bitter fight.  
Thou art the Lion that hath overcome,  
The promised Great One of great Juda's tribe.  
Thou art the Root of David, David's son,



## AT SANTA BARBARA



Whilom foretold the Bringer of Salvation,  
The Holy One, the Anointed of the Lord,  
The Saviour of Thy people, the Light and Life  
Of all the world.—

Bend we our knees, O brethren, and adore  
This sign of faith, and anchor of our hope,  
And pledge of charity. Pray we our God  
To prosper this new land, and send His grace  
In fulness on our work. Combine we then  
To give our strength to what we've here begun.  
Let's labor wholly for religion's cause:  
Seek we no glory but our God's, no gain  
But souls, immortal souls. And even so  
We'll work most honor to our gracious king,  
Do filial service to our country's name  
And stretch the sway of our illustrious Spain.—  
In this sign shall we conquer:—Then hold we  
fast

The cross of Christ. In it alone is light,  
In it alone salvation. The cross alone  
Will keep us safe on th' Highway of the King,  
Lift up the eternal mansion's golden gates,  
Escort us to the Lamb that is the light  
Thereof, and set us 'fore the throne of Him  
Who reigns the King of Ages and the Lord  
of all.—



## PLANTING THE CROSS



Brave cavaliers, knights of the cross, brethren,  
Oft have I prayed to do what now is done:  
Long years my soul hath yearned here on this  
ground,  
In Santa Barbara's honor named, to plant  
The cross of Christ, and build a Mission burgh,  
To make men citizens with Saints, and God's  
Domestics, built on Apostolic base,  
Whose corner-stone is Jesus Christ, the Lord.  
Praise God with me, my children, my cry is  
heard,  
Fill full your hearts with jubilee, and raise  
Your hands in thankful prayer. Come, let's  
adore,  
And prostrate kneel, and hymn a song of praise.

### ALABADO

*Alabado, y ensalzado,  
Sea el Divino Sacramento,  
En quien Dios oculto asiste,  
De las Almas el sustento.*

*Y la limpia Concepción,  
De la Reyna de los Cielos,  
Que quedando Virgen Pura,  
Es Madre del Verbo Eterno.*

*Y el Bendito San Joseph,  
Electo por Dios inmenso  
Para Padre Estimativo  
De su Hijo el Divino Verbo.*

*Esto es por todos los siglos,  
Y de los siglos Amen.  
Amen Jesus y María,  
Jesus, María, y Joseph.*



## AT SANTA BARBARA



*Adorote Santa Cruz,  
Puesta en el Monte Calvario,  
En tí murió mi Jesús.  
Para darme eterna luz,  
Y librarme del Contrario.*

*O dulcísimo Jesús!  
Yo te doy mi corazón,  
Para que estampes en el  
Tu santísima Pasión.*

*Madre llena de dolor,  
Hazed, que quando espíremos*

*Nuestras Almas entreguemos,  
En las manos del Señor.*

*Quien a Dios quiere seguir,  
Y en su gloria quiere entrar,  
Una cosa ha de asentar,  
Y de corazón decir,  
Antes morir, que pecar;  
Antes que pecar morir.*

*V. Ave María.*

*R. En gracia concebida.*



## PLANTING THE CROSS



### SCENE 2.

*The Presidio site. Settlers and Soldiers lounging.*

1 SOLDIER

**S**LOW work, neighbors, slow work!

2 SOLDIER

And bad work too!

3 SOLDIER

Do look at it! The Captain cannot praise  
Such bungling work.

1 SETTLER

We look not for his praise,  
As you do, self appointed critic.

2 SOLDIER

Call you

This botching work?

3 SOLDIER

So ill matched with the site!

2 SOLDIER

But well matched with their efforts: both mere  
spurts.

3 SOLDIER

They need a sharp rebuke to prick them on.

 AT SANTA BARBARA 

3 SETTLER

Spare your flings, stupid censor, they're aimed  
amiss.

2 SETTLER

There were no need of reprimand did not  
The soldiers fear to soil their hands.

1 SETTLER

Indeed,  
'Twere better you fell to with pick and axe  
In place of flinging taunts and grinning sneers.

2 SETTLER

Or fondling your dull swords and trimming fine  
Your gaudy uniforms.

2 SOLDIER

Forbid your tongue,  
Churl, or I'll stop it with my fist.

2 SETTLER

Away,  
You upstart, put your fist to useful work.

2 SOLDIER

Insult more, I'll soil my hands with your blood.

2 SETTLER

Go vent your threats on cowards, I fear you not.





## PLANTING THE CROSS



2 SOLDIER

You challenge so my wrath? Then stand and  
fight,  
You vulgar peasant.

*Serra enters.*

SERRA

Forbear, my children, forbear; what is between  
you?

2 SOLDIER

This bumpkin has insulted our profession,  
And he must pay for it.

2 SETTLER

And he must pay  
For rating and insulting me.

SERRA

Be calm.

2 SETTLER

What right have these to give rebukes?

1 SETTLER

Let them reproach themselves, who all the day  
Sit idly by whilst we must work.

2 SETTLER

Who play  
And drink and sleep away the time.



## AT SANTA BARBARA



### 2 SOLDIER

Coward!

And liar! Are we not his Majesty's men?  
And soldiers of his Excellency Felipe Neve?

### SERRA

Allay your anger. I pray you, children, break  
not

Sweet charity's law. Remember we left our  
home

To bring the peace of God to those who still  
In darkness sit and shades of death,—our poor  
Unfortunate brethren, no less than we redeemed  
By Christ's atoning death. How then shall we  
Make good our noble purpose if thus we break  
The peace among ourselves?—Brother, forgive  
The insult. Forget the assault, brother, for love  
Of Him who dying prayed for deicides.

Be reconciled for love of Him whose Gospel  
Of kind forgiveness we have come to announce  
By word and deed.—Here comes our honorable  
Captain.

*Ortega enters.*

### ORTEGA

The trouble, Father Presidente?



## PLANTING THE CROSS



SERRA

All's well again; a few ill tempered words  
Which cooled as fast as they grew hot.

ORTEGA

'Tis well.

SERRA

The work progresses. How good! The field  
is fair,

Is 't not, Senor, to start the Mission now?

ORTEGA

That, Padre, his Excellency will judge;  
No word from him has yet come to the men.

SERRA

I will remind the Governor; there seems  
No cause for more delay. Heaven prospers well  
The present work; may 't bless as well  
what's yet

To do. Fair Santa Barbara's soil will sprout  
The flower of all the fairest in the wreath  
Of Missions that with glory and honor crowns  
Our lovely California's sunny brow.

*Serra goes out*

ORTEGA

Well, companions, how far is work advanced?



AT SANTA BARBARA



1 SETTLER

See, Captain for yourself.

ORTEGA

Done well enough.

1 SOLDIER

Enough to merit rest awhile; yet now  
The further task doth press—the Mission  
buildings.

ORTEGA

That urges not: the Governor's not inclined,  
Though nothing hinders him to set the task.

2 SOLDIER

I thank the Governor.

3 SOLDIER

So do we all.

2 SOLDIER

The Padre is much too careful for the redskins.  
Look we to our comfort first, then to the needs  
Of th' heathen savage.

ORTEGA

Howe'er it be, await  
His Excellency's command. Meanwhile to work!  
'Tis past the hour of rest. Complete your task,  
And earn the Governor's praise who'll soon  
be here  
To view and plaud your faithful service.

### SCENE 3.

*Serra enters.*

**SERRA**

SO much is done, thank God. The cross  
 stands firm  
 On new blest ground ; the garrison builds fast.  
 It now remains the fortress strong to raise  
 Where God His tabernacle rears with men,  
 Where Angel spirits hold a sleepless guard,  
 And weary souls find rest and strength and life.  
 This little chapel serves a present need,  
 But better room and larger space must soon  
 Be had to gather souls into the Fold.  
 What a favored site! More charming yet  
 Than San Buenaventura by the sea.  
 May Santa Barbara's Mission rise to excel  
 In size and beauty the first of Channel  
     Missions,  
 And grow to flowering health beyond the rest.  
 The chain is strengthened by another link,  
 The line will soon be full. O how great thanks  
 Are due to God! The harvest ripens more  
 And more; if but the Lord send laborers now  
 To reap and garner home the store.

*He kneels.*



## AT SANTA BARBARA



*Indians enter; they come to Serra and show him beads; the Padre caresses them and dismisses them with his blessing.*

The children cry for bread. Speed God our  
work

That soon these babes may sate their hungering  
souls.

O Master, lover Thou of little ones,  
Hasten the time: give them the faith that makes  
them Thine and forms them heirs of endless  
life.—

My years on earth cannot be many more,  
Yet what is left to me, O God, of life  
I dedicate, each moment I devote  
To Thee, my Lord, to labor in Thy vineyard,  
Heavenly Husbandman, till th' evening comes  
When Thou wilt call the laborer to his rest  
And mete to him a just reward.—

I must go press the Governor to start  
The Mission buildings and the church. He'll  
not

Defer the task beyond the need, I trust.  
Yet, though I find rebuke, I shall not flag:—  
Heaven's designs will not be foiled: no work  
Is born but in travail, none reared and wrought



## PLANTING THE CROSS



To end but in the crucible of pain.  
'Tis true, O God, heavy may lie the cross  
Upon Thine own; yet strong art Thou who first  
The cross didst bear and on its wood expire  
To give us might to bear the weight, yea die  
As Thou, if so it please Thy blessed Will.

*He kneels.*

SCENE 4.

*Ortega sits reading. Neve enters.*

ORTEGA

**R**ESPECTFUL greetings, Gobernador.

NEVE

And mine  
To you. What read you, Commandante?

ORTEGA

The first  
Record of our new colony.

NEVE

By whom?

ORTEGA

The Father Presidente.

NEVE

And tells?

ORTEGA

Of Santa Barbara's spiritual birth.

NEVE

You mean—

ORTEGA

The planting of the cross.





## PLANTING THE CROSS



NEVE

Read it, Senor.

ORTEGA

So 't please your Excellency.

*Reads*

LIVE JESUS MARY JOSEPH.

Book I of Baptisms, wherein are recorded the names of those who were Christianized in this new and royal Presidio of Santa Barbara, Virgin and Martyr. Under the administration of the Rev. Fathers Missionaries Apostolic of the College of the Propagation of the Faith, of San Fernando, Mexico, of the Order of our Father Saint Francis of the Observance.

FOUNDED

By the request and command of the Catholic King of Spain and the Indies, His Majesty, Charles III, (whom may God ever prosper), Santa Barbara Channel, in the new and superior California situate in the same mainland and coast, our actual Guardian being, for the second time, the Rev. Fr. Lector, Francis Pangua.



AT SANTA BARBARA



AND COMMENCED

on the third Sunday after Easter, the feast of the Patronage of St. Joseph, Patriarch, spouse of Holy Mary, April 21st,

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1782

on which day, I, the undersigned Fr. Junipero Serra, President of these Missions among infidels, of said and by said College Apostolic, having arranged all necessary preliminaries in a chapel made of brush and decorated as best the circumstances permitted, blessed water and with it dedicated the land to God our Lord. We then raised a large and high cross, which we venerated, and I thereupon celebrated the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for the first time in these lands and preached a sermon appropriate to the occasion. Owing to the absence of an assistant, it was necessarily a low Mass, and, for the same reason, the service was concluded with the *Alabado* instead of the *Te Deum*.

May it be for the glory of God, the propagation of the faith, and the welfare of souls.

Fr Junipero Serra



## PLANTING THE CROSS



NEVE

Reads true enough.

ORTEGA

His first entry.

NEVE

Perhaps

His last.

ORTEGA

His last! why say you so, Senor?  
Will he not stay to found and launch the  
Mission?

NEVE

I think he 'll not abide my time and order.

ORTEGA

You mean then to put off the work?

NEVE

I do.

ORTEGA

But he 'll insist.

NEVE

Insist! he 'll fret in vain.

ORTEGA

A heavy trial for his zealous soul.



## AT SANTA BARBARA



### NEVE

I'll teach him prudent zeal and patience.  
'Tis time the Friars learned who's Governor  
Of California. I grow weary  
Of pert demands and hence shall grudge to  
yield  
To boring mendicants.

### ORTEGA

But, Governor,  
The Colorado Massacre.—

### NEVE

I catch  
The shaft, but break its point. No, no, Captain,  
Think not that one defeat discomfits me.  
It takes far more to unnerve Felipe Neve.

*Serra enters.*

### SERRA

My greetings, Gobernador;—Commandante.  
Your Excellency will guess my suit before  
I speak it. Is't not full time to break the  
ground?  
The rest is all in progress, what hinders then  
The most important work of all—the Mission?



## PLANTING THE CROSS



### NEVE

That, Padre, belongs to me to know, and say.  
Know then, no Mission shall be founded here  
Till the Presidio is completed.

### SERRA

Then am I needless here. There's much to do,  
And little time to do it. I will pass  
To Monterey, and spend what yet remains  
Of strength to me in tilling tenderer soil.  
To work the new less yielding ground requires  
New hands and vigorous strength, the which,  
I pray, may God in time provide. Myself  
Shall leave, but Father Dumet shall come to  
serve  
Your souls. The love of Christ doth press  
me on.

*He goes out.*

### ORTEGA

Teach that man patience? How calmly he bore  
the trial!

### NEVE

Bear 't as he may, 't is good he's gone, the  
remnant,  
The last, I hope, of a decrepid system  
That has survived too long.



AT SANTA BARBARA



ORTEGA

Say what you will,  
God knows he is a tried and saintly soul;  
And if a better system will supplant  
His own is doubtful yet,—that, time must show.

NEVE

Right, and time will show it very soon.—  
Captain, I will review the work tomorrow:  
Have all in readiness. Till then, adios!

ORTEGA

Adios, Gobernador, adios!



## PLANTING THE CROSS



### SCENE 5.

*Serra kneeling at the Cross.*

SERRA

WE adore Thee, O Christ, and praise Thee,  
Because by Thy Cross thou hast redeemed  
the world.

Yes, faithful cross, by Thee the world is saved,  
By Thee too every soul is shaped unto  
Its Saviour a vessel of His grace  
And clean abode of His enduring love.  
O Master Crucified! how shall I thank  
For this Thy newest token? I am not worthy  
To suffer so for Thee; yet do I beg  
Most humbly, Lord, accept my worthless gift  
In reparation for my sins, and turn  
My disappointment into joy for Thee  
By calling worthier workers to this field,  
Who'll slake Thy burning thirst, my dying  
Lord,  
For souls redeemed by Thy most Precious  
Blood.—

'T is true, I merit not to see my hope  
And ardent wish fulfilled. Enough for me  
That I have sown the seed; another hand

 AT SANTA BARBARA 

Will water the plant when it shall please  
Sweet Providence to let it sprout, and God  
Will give Himself th' increase and cull the  
fruit.—

Enough for me, indeed, more than enough.  
Yet toil I will, yet labor hard I must,  
For woe is me if I preach not the Gospel:  
To preach Christ Crucified is my one claim  
To live, if claim can be where all is grace  
And nothing is desert.—To Carlos Mission,  
The loved of my heart, I will return,  
And there work on until the final call.  
Unworthy I to see, or say, what yet  
This Virgin Martyr's ground will grow in time.  
Why may not Santa Barbara's Mission be  
A nursery of godly men who'll bring  
To glorious spread and prosperous state the  
Church  
Of God and Kingdom of His Son? For me,  
My life's sun hastens to its setting; soon  
The still small voice will speak. O may I then  
Be alert to hear its faintest tones, and answer  
The summons of my Judge. And may I find  
Repose in my dear California's soil,





And Rest Eternal in the arms of God.—  
If I am needful for Thy people's good,  
Lord, I refuse not yet to work, albeit  
My soul thirsts for Thee, strong and living God,  
I long to be dissolved and live with Christ.



Morning Press Print  
Santa Barbara, California  
November, 1913







CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL UNION

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THE PLANTING OF THE CROSS [S.L.]



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PS 3513 .L682 P536 1913  
Gliebe, Francis de Sales,  
1882-1974  
The planting of the cross



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T5-CFR-752

